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CLASSIFICATION CONTROL/US OFFICIALS

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT

TOPIC German Volkspolizei in Halle, Prenzlau and Rostock

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EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT December 1950 to February 1951

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 27 March 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. A large percentage of the cadre personnel of the VP Bereitschaft in Waldfrieden near Burg were transferred to Halle (M 52/D 92) on 1 December 1950 to activate a new VP Bereitschaft there. Other police from Waldfrieden were transferred to Gera and a place on Ruegen Island, leaving only a small cadre of police in Waldfrieden. Prior to their reassignment, the police in Waldfrieden were inspected by a Soviet colonel. The police who were transferred to Halle moved into a barracks installation which, at first, also quartered some Soviet troops who, however, shipped out soon afterwards. By integrating police recruits into the unit, the new VP Bereitschaft in Halle reached a strength of about 2,000 men by 15 December 1950. For training, the VP Bereitschaft received several old T-34 tanks from an unidentified Soviet unit. These were picked up and driven to the barracks installation at night. *

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2. It was learned on 10 February 1951 that 730 police who had completed 15 months of VP service were being trained in the old barracks installation on Grabowstrasse, Prenzlau (M 54/Q 04). Upon graduation they would be commissioned as VP Kommissars. The unit was equipped with nine new Soviet trucks and several Czech passenger cars. While on town leave, the VP trainees attempted to make young men sign up for VP service. They usually carried application forms with them. It was learned that 200 newly promoted VP Kommissare had been graduated from the installation on 7 November 1950. **

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3. A former VP Meister of Rostock (M 55/O 81) stated on 20 January 1951 that the VP Bereitschaft there was newly activated under the reorganization program of the Bereitschaftspolizei. Upon its reorganization, the VP Bereitschaft in Rostock consisted of three infantry Kommandos, two artillery Abteilungen, two tank Abteilungen and one Sonderabteilung which was allegedly equipped with rocket launchers. VP Kommandeur Ruebeling, (fnu), was commanding officer of the VP Bereitschaft, and VP Kommandeur Brendel, (fnu), PK officer. ***

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* [REDACTED] Comment. The newly activated VP Bereitschaft in Halle is probably stationed in the Kluever Kaserne. It also received personnel from the former 2d VP Bereitschaft in Langensalza. See [REDACTED] 25X1A

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** [REDACTED] Comment. The information indicates that the VP officer candidate school in the Fliegerhorst Kaserne, Prenzlau, is still in existence. Other sources reported that the school was dissolved and its facilities taken over by the newly activated VP Bereitschaft No 205/9.

*** [REDACTED] Comment. The information confirms a report simultaneously received by another source. See [REDACTED]

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